

Daily Eagle

M. M. MURDOCK, Editor.

THAT NEW INTERSTATE COMMERCE BILL.

The Interstate Commerce Commission was not organized in pursuance of law to fix freight rate schedules, but for the purpose of enforcing the "long and short haul" clause of the interstate commerce law, in the violation of which, by the railroads, nearly all the discriminations are due.

Through the instrumentality of the executive committee of the interstate commerce law convention, held at St. Louis, in November, 1902, a bill was drafted and introduced in congress entitled "An Act Further Defining the Duties and Powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission," the purpose of which bill was to clothe the commission with such judicial powers as would enable it to enforce its findings and to fix rates where discriminative or unreasonable transportation charges were made. The measure though up for consideration failed of enactment. Again, on December 8, of the present session, Congressman Cooper of Wisconsin reintroduced the original draft of the bill and Senator Quarles of the same state introduced the identical bill in the senate. That the readers of the Eagle, or such of them as are more directly interested in the transportation question, and who is not, we herewith give a full synopsis of the bill:

Section 1—Provides that any order made by the Interstate Commerce Commission, after hearing and determination had on any petition now pending or hereafter presented under the provisions of the "Act to Regulate Commerce," (commonly termed the Interstate Commerce act), declaring any existing rate, or any regulation or practice affecting such rate, complained of, for the transportation of persons or property, to be unjustly discriminative or unreasonable, and declaring what rate, regulation or practice would be just and reasonable, and requiring them to be substituted therefor, shall become operative within thirty days, or, in case of proceeding for view, then within sixty days. Such order may at any time be modified, suspended or revoked by the commission upon full hearing of all parties in interest.

Section 2—Provides that if the rate is a joint one, and the parties thereto fail to agree upon the apportionment thereof within twenty days, the commission may determine the portion to be received by each carrier. Also, when the order of the commission prescribes the just relation of rates to or from common points, and the carriers parties thereto fail to agree as to the changes to be made to effect compliance, the commission shall prescribe the rates to be charged by either of all the parties.

Section 3—Provides that every order, as to its justness, reasonableness and lawfulness, shall be reviewable, upon petition filed within twenty days, by any circuit court given jurisdiction, and requires the commission to file a certified copy of the record of the case within twenty days after notice. The court may in its discretion, upon the application of either party, cause additional testimony to be taken in such manner as it may direct, and, if, after hearing, the court is of the opinion that the order of the commission was made under some error of law, or is, upon the facts, unjust or unreasonable, it shall modify, set aside or annul the same; otherwise the petition shall be dismissed. Pending review, the court may, upon application and hearing, if in its opinion the order is clearly unlawful or erroneous, suspend the order. Appeal to the supreme court may be taken within thirty days, but the order of the circuit court is not stayed thereby. Cases under this act in both courts are given precedence over all except criminal cases.

JAPAN BOUND TO FIGHT.

Japan is determined that she would not be pacified. She is for fight and will never be satisfied until she can get mixed up in a war with Russia. Preparations for war at Tokyo and other Japanese ports having gone forward for a long time, the chances seem favorable for a realization of her desires. If war with Russia is averted it won't be at the instance of Japan. In some of the European capitals it is believed hostilities cannot be averted; in others it is thought that Russia's reply to the Japanese demand for the evacuation of Manchuria will be satisfactory; yet it is impossible to conceive that the Czar's government will recede from the position it has taken, and nothing short of that would probably satisfy Japan.

Now much appears to depend upon the attitude of Great Britain, for if that power offers to support Japan it is not to be doubted that the Mikado's government will force war upon Russia. The young Japanese are intensely patriotic. They glory in everything that Japan has done, and believe their nation is capable of almost anything. Furthermore, the newspapers of Japan have taught the people to hate Russia with the utmost intensity. The work of preparation for war in this respect has been well done. The help of China has also been counted upon, but the dispatches from Peking indicate that the Chinese officials are in a state of helpless panic, and while it might be possible to raise a Chinese army under Japanese commanders, little or no help can be looked for from the Chinese government itself.

Hostilities may not come before spring, but war now appears to be inevitable, and there is going to be a lot of important news from the Orient within the next few months. That is certain.

JUST WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN.

One of the most onerous duties of the average congressman, if, indeed, it is not altogether the most difficult task, is the answering of letters from constituents. To say nothing of the time and labor necessarily required to look after the matters about which these letters are written, they must be answered. Some members, especially from the newer districts of the west, take up half of all their nights answering letters. The Kansas City Star's Washington correspondent, who has been looking the matter up, says that Kansas congressmen are convinced that they represent the most indefatigable aggregation of ready letter writers to be found in any state in the Union. The eight Kansas representatives receive on an average fifty letters each a day.

The average member of congress receives less than twenty-five. Representative Sperry of Connecticut, whose district includes New Haven and has a greater population than any other district in the United States, receives on

an average twenty-five letters a day. The population of Sperry's district is 310,000. Murdock of the Big Seventh in Kansas, has the fourth largest district in point of population, in round numbers, 250,000. Mr. Murdock receives an average of sixty letters a day. Each member of the Kansas delegation attempts to answer every letter he receives.

THE WEST THE WHOLE THING.

The political power of the country is being rapidly transferred to the west, or to the Mississippi basin. The real east and the real west, that is the Atlantic nor the Pacific states, will cut much political ice in the future, except in a sectional way. The country lying between the Alleghenies and the Rockies will dominate the political situation. The Springfield Republican cruelly points out to Mr. Roosevelt that only once in the past half-century has the Republican party "put at the head of its national ticket an eastern man, and then it was beaten. Its presidential candidates, with this exception and that of Fremont, who was accredited to California, have come from the central west, which played a leading part in the party's upbuilding, and has been its mainstay in all the succeeding contests. There are sentimental reasons, as well as practical, why a Republican national convention should choose Chicago as a meeting place. Roosevelt will be the last Republican candidate to be elected from the Atlantic states for probably many years to come.

THE PHILIPPINE LAND PROBLEM.

The public lands in the Philippines are to be disposed of under rules approved by President Roosevelt and submitted to congress.

The total area of the Philippines is placed at about 75,000,000 acres. Of this only 6,000,000 acres are now held in private ownership. Deducting the rocky and sterile portions of the islands there remain about 50,000,000 acres to be disposed of by the government for agricultural purposes, and of this four-fifths is still virgin forest.

The rules, as framed, limit the amount of land that may be sold to a private person at forty acres, but permit sales up to 2,500 acres to corporations. Leases may be made for twenty-five year periods on easy terms.

A question has been raised as to whether it is advisable to encourage the acquisition of small holdings of land by the Filipinos. The members of the Philippine commission have believed that the best results could be secured by a leasing system, and that operations must be conducted on a large scale to be successful. If debate springs up in congress over the new rules it will probably center about these points.

SHAKESPEARE.

Others abide our question. Thou art free. We ask and ask—Thou smilest and art still, Out-topping knowledge. For the loftiest hill, Who to the stars uncovers his majesty,

Planting his steadfast footsteps in the sea, Making the heaven of heavens his dwelling-place, Spares but the cloudy border of his base To the foiled searching of immortality;

And thou, who didst the stars and sunbeams know, Self-schooled, self-scanned, self-honored, self-secure, Didst tread on earth unguessed at—Better so!

All pains the immortal spirit must endure, All weakness which impairs, all griefs which bow, Find their sole speech in that victorious brow.

—Matthew Arnold.

The Colorado papers keep up the charge that Kansas is trying to steal their river. The river originally belonged to Kansas from the Indian Territory line to the very headwaters. The original boundary of Kansas was the Continental Divide west of Leadville. Denver was a Kansas town, named after a Kansas governor. One of its principal streets is named after a Leavenworth man, General Larimer, another after the city of Lawrence.

There is a rumor now that the arrangement said to have been entered into between the Rock Island and San Francisco railroads is not as satisfactory as was anticipated, and that there is a likelihood of severance of relations. The men in control of the different systems hate to give up to some other authority.

Bryan having sailed in for a talk with der Kaiser, and failed to land, will be sailing this week for a land where he can talk to everybody, and he is going to talk like a Dutch uncle to the Democratic bosses.

It is said that Richard Olney's candidacy for the Democratic nomination for president of the United States will be officially endorsed by the state committee at its meeting to be held in January.

The new year of 1904 will start in on Friday, which will give the world a year to test the truth of it being an unlucky day. And it's leap year, too. Better look before you leap, girls.

A Texas court the other day sentenced a man to the penitentiary for 1,000 years. Such a sentence would have made old Methuselah doubt ever being a free man again.

The retention of Perry Heath as secretary of the national central committee will not help the Republican party in its campaign next summer.

The late so-called cold wave didn't hit southwest Kansas to hurt. The thermometer dropped pretty close to zero, however, up along the Kaw.

Joe Bristow has arrived at his Kansas home. Having no old fences out of repair, he must be contemplating building a new and higher one.

Contrary to the expectations of many, and the fear of not a few, the Philippine tangle is unravelling rapidly and satisfactorily.

Fights on the stage are going out of fashion, and the front row of bald-heads will be conspicuous by their absence.

That tunnel accident has cost the New York Central railway \$1,250,000 to date, with a lot of suits still pending.

Columbia is still wallowing over the fading away of that rainbow with a \$10,000,000 pot of gold at its end.

The Colombian army now marching on to Panama contains only three men below the rank of colonel.

One-half of the people of this world are orphans, not a few of whom range from 80 to 90 years of age.

Now the Prebster organs are gleaming Ed. Hoch as a traitor in refusing to become their victim.

KANSAS HISTORY REVEALS THAT

IN 1835, SIXTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO TODAY: The United States agreed to convey to the Cherokee Indians "the following tract of land, situated between the west line of the state of Missouri and the Osage reservation, beginning at the southeast corner of the same and runs north along the east line of the Osage lands fifty miles to the northeast corner thereof, and thence east to the west line of the state of Missouri, thence with said line south fifty miles, thence west to the place of beginning, estimated to contain 200,000 acres of land; but it is expressly understood that if any of the lands assigned to the squaws shall fall within the aforesaid bounds the same shall be reserved and excepted out of the lands above granted, and a pro rata reduction shall be made in the price to be allowed to the United States for the same by the Cherokee." This treaty was confirmed by congress in 1835, and General Scott marched into their country, in Georgia, with 2,000 troops, and forced their removal.

IN 1838, FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO TODAY: The Sentinel was started at Junction City, Benjamin H. Keyser, editor, George W. Kingsbury, printer.

IN 1873, THIRTY YEARS AGO TODAY: W. W. Curtis, acting commissioner of the general land office, handed down a decision to the register and receiver of the Wichita land office on an application of John H. Armstrong to enter under the act of May 11, 1872, a quarter in the Cherokee Strip, which entry was rejected by the Wichita land office because not offered within one year from date of settlement. The decision was to the effect that parties claiming under this act would have until May 11, 1874, before the secretary of the interior will dispose of the unsold tracts by sealed bids under the provision.

IN 1883, TWENTY YEARS AGO TODAY: The residence of Charles E. Styles at Atchison burned, and Style's wife and child perished in the flames.

IN 1892, TEN YEARS AGO TODAY: Mrs. Mary E. Leas wrote Governor Lewelling, refusing to be "fired" from the state board of charities. He had removed her the day before.

IN 1898, FIVE YEARS AGO TODAY: Sarah E. Greene was shot and killed on the Rock Island depot platform at Furley by her husband. A dispatch from Miltonville, Dickinson county, denied that the bank of that place, under the control of Catlin brothers, had failed, as stated before.

THE PIKERS' LAMENT

"Old boys have their playthings as well as young ones; the difference is only in the price."—Poor Richard's Almanack.

"DOGGEREL."
(Composed by Request.)
Once there was a little dog,
That tried to scare a mother hog.
He hit her pigs, the foolish pup,
Then play's mamma did him up.
Now into Doggerel he is made—
"D-gg-e-e-e!"

Was what the Piker said.
CHAS. T. FORAN.
P. S.—Do you believe there's a Santa Claus? I believe it's all imagination.

Ye Piker is asking for dog, ("Here Mike")
He says, "Please send in the dog."
("Here Mike")
But I tell you right here in advance,
He'll own the whole pike, give him
chance, ("Sic Mike")

Avant Personae.
LATHAM MOORE.
(3-7-10)
It may do for Russia to intervene to reform Macedonia if there are not too many Jews there.

New England is snowbound. But it doesn't do any good as that section doesn't raise winter wheat.

"Reyes and Horron cannot leave for home any too soon. A hero should be able to rise to the occasion," muttered the pernicious justice in the left ear of the editor.

It passed through the other ear and here it is.

There are red lights and red lights. The wind blew out one near Grand Rapids Saturday evening and death and destruction followed. The voters in New York failed to blow out the red lights in the metropolis at the last election and death and destruction will follow, not so rapidly, but just as surely and a thousand fold more numerous.

The West is still feeding the cow. Which the East has been milking, somehow.

But the South has stepped in With her big cotton gin And is using up all the cream now.

At a speech in Berlin W. J. Bryan is quoted as saying that he thought in '96 that only Democrats could properly represent the country abroad. One wonders if Bryan is really the ass he so often writes himself down.

It is said Gorman has lost out through his anti-canonical scheme. Gorman was making progress in his race issue, but even the South won't swallow two false issues at once.

"Hoch Der Hoch." What has become of the old-fashioned editor who carried this expression in stock?

OKLAHOMA OUTLINES

The Elud Wave in announcing that it would print no paper on Christmas day states, "The printers have a rest as well as the good people."

An experience love feast is to be a feature of a watch party held at Glencoe. This should insure a good attendance.

The farmers' gin at Mountain View with stood the last week. The many shoppers from the country saved it.

The Journal declares that Beaver county is entitled to about \$100,000 of the national budget and declares that if the county doesn't watch out it will get away. Does the Journal fear Professor Langley will give it wings?

A Farmers' Co-operative Shipping association was formed at Glencoe last week. Dr. S. P. Bradford was elected president.

That was an unhappy thought in the Anadarko Tribune to print an article on the latest styles in tiaras, crowns and other royal jewels just on the edge of Christmas.

A Renfrow paper advertises a piano contest, but it is not as it is. It is only a voting affair, the victim of which will be the parents and neighbors of the winner.

The Perry Republican issued a Christmas edition in which all the colors of the rainbow and then some appeared. It requires bright colors to do justice to Perry's progress and outlook.

The Taloga Advocate was willing to compromise with all its Christmas friends on a year's subscription in advance.

Christmas Greetings in the form of a handsome supplement was a feature of last week's Lexington Leader. It had station pages devoted entirely to Lexington, its thriving business and its enterprising business men.

These fine poultry shows in Oklahoma last week showed all sorts of feathers, but all eggs looked alike. An egg is worth as much to eat as to set in these days.

Ed had a public installation of Masonic officers last night. That means passing from labor to refreshments, literally.

The Medford Star thinks less attention should be paid to Christmas gifts and more to what they signify. That may be a good motto for the giver, but the receiver won't fall in readily with that view.

Kingfisher county farmers have not held their institute yet, but it is scheduled for January 2. There will be no little potatoes there.

KANSAS CURRENTS

Chamarron Jacksonian: If there isn't a double federal, an unfaithful wife and her paramour in this town one of these days then we'll plead guilty to being a poor prophet. There diagnosed conduct is the talk of the town and sooner or later the inevitable will happen. Liberal News: There appears to be a sort of the same disease "broke out" in Liberal. And in all probability if a certain traveling fellow returns and continues to play his hand as carelessly as he did recently, there'll be a big scandal on hands, and he'll probably not wear that goody goody expression and not all in gray in the same "pleasing manner" as formerly. We print just this much for a warning. The good people of this town won't stand for any such foolishness. Unfaithfulness is one of the unpardonable sins.

Ed. Howe declares that as a "heart-to-heart" Ed. Hoch is not a success. In fact, is any man?

We see by the Iola Register that the El Dorado Republican has started this cry, "Hoch der Hoch." Indeed.

Even the thieves at Arkansas City had a prosperous Christmas. As much as 1% could have been found in one of their stockings, had the police been quicker.

Winfield will pass on a \$25,000 bond proposition today. Water and light are at stake.

Wellington defeated Winfield in a football game Christmas by a score of 6 to 1. Moreover, a Winfield paper reports such.

Dayoff decided that a piano is not a "necessary appendage" to a school house. He might have even gone further than that.

Merton Although declares for an early convention for Roosevelt's interest, if no other.

According to the Sedgewick Pantagraph's anthology expert John Nicholson is still put with a handful of salt trying to edge up close to the nomination for representative from Harvey county.

Oysters were the prize in a Christmas shoot at Sedgewick. It was not advertised but no doubt catnip and tobacco sauce were furnished along with them.

James Heinemann, who is accused of killing an aged woman, Mrs. Elizabeth Lacy at Carmel, Mo., is supposed to have spent the last three years previous to the crime at Oxford, Kansas county. No one was talking Oxford turns out some spirited men.

Every editor felt safe in predicting cold weather after the usual Christmas. As usual, however, it has turned out otherwise, and again the truth of the assertion that no weather prediction in Kansas is anything but a guess, proved.

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